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1962/12/07

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CUBAN CRISIS

15 October - 16 November 1962

This chronology tries to relate the significant events of the Cuban Crisis with the significant public affairs actions carried out by the Department of Defense. No attempt was made to list all press queries, only those of significance.

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OASD(PA) Control No. 63-04

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EVENTS

October 15, 1962 Monday

Between 8 and 10 p. m. information regarding aerial photos taken 14 October is relayed to Secretary McNamara, Deputy Secretary Gilpatric, Secretary State Rusk, Under Secretary Ball, Deputy Secretary Johnson, McGeorge Bundy, CIA Director McCone, Deputy CIA Director Cline, Assistant Secretary State Martin.

October 16, 1962 Tuesday

9:00 a. m. President receives photographic evidence from Mr. McGeorge Bundy.

11:45 a. m. Meeting at White House: President, Vice-President, Secretary Rusk, Secretary McNamara, Attorney General, General Taylor, Messrs. Gilpatric, Ball, Martin, McGeorge Bundy, Sorenson, Dillon, Bahlen, O'Donnell. Decision made to greatly increase reconnaissance of Cuba.

October 17, 1962 Wednesday

Aerial reconnaissance shows indications of 28 launching pads and other significant indication of mobile launches with missiles. President flies to Connecticut in afternoon.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 15, 1962 through October 17, 1962.

No announcements made and no queries answered regarding Cuba.

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EVENTS

October 18, 1962 Thursday

Aerial reconnaissance continues. JCS directs CINCONAD to increase air defense posture and CINCPAC to transfer operational control of reinforced infantry battalion from 5th MEB to CINCLANT. Many meetings during the day. CINCONAD commences movement of forces to augment air defense of Southeast United States.

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QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 18, 1962 Thursday

Q. Regarding the POST story today about planes going to Florida, what do we have in Florida bases now and what has been sent in recently or planned to be sent in? Have planes been moved into McDill and Homestead AFB's?

A. Last March USAF announced it would activate an F-105 wing at George AFB and would move an F-100 wing from George to Homestead AFB to make room.

The Air Force also announced last January it would buy some McDonnell F4H fighters. In March it announced it would set up two wings in Florida at McDill AFB and have the people in place and ready to receive the new aircraft. At present there are two wings at McDill, both with F-84F aircraft.

ADC has a small number of aircraft at Homestead AFB.

SAC has B-52 and B-47 type bombers in Florida.

The Air Force has placed no aircraft in Florida in recent months (since March anyway) and has no announced plans to "beef up" against MIG's in Cuba.

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EVENTS

October 19, 1962 Friday

Aerial reconnaissance continues. TAC's fall mobility exercise cancelled. CARIB and LANT alerted against possible air attack. Hawk Battalion at Fort Meade directed to move to Key West. Hawk Battalion transferred from PACOM to LANTCOM, destination Guantanamo.

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QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 19, 1962 Friday

Q. Marines arrived in Key West today on LST. Why were they sent there?

A. Support personnel and equipment for aviation units engaged in the Carribbean exercise.

In answer to query regarding story in Northern Virginia Sun:

"A Pentagon spokesman denied tonight that any alert has been ordered or that any emergency military measures have been set in motion against Communist-ruled Cuba. Further, the spokesman said the Pentagon has no information indicating the presence of offensive weapons in Cuba."

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EVENTS

October 20, 1962 Saturday

JCS advised CINC's at 8:12 a.m. that state of tension with Cuba could lead to military action. JCS directed CINCLANT to suspend PHIBRIGLEX-62 at 11:07 a.m. Newsmen to go south as planned.

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QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 20, 1962 Saturday

Q. Report that carrier ENTERPRISE with 80 planes aboard had pulled out of Hampton Roads, Virginia, on its way to Guantanamo, Cuba.

A. The ENTERPRISE loaded more than 80 planes yesterday for sailing to meet any hurricane eventuality and to conduct certain engineering tests at sea. Such sailing before a storm is standard Navy practices.

Q. Report that a battalion of Marines had landed at Boca Chica.

A. Part of routine Caribbean exercise called PHILBRIGLEX-62.

Q. UPI San Diego asks why Marines are being loaded on planes at El Toro. AP has reports of movement of Marines yesterday from Pendleton to El Toro.

A. They are taking part in the final phase of PHIBRIGLEX-62, an Atlantic Fleet exercise in the Caribbean which began October 15 and is scheduled to end in coming week with an amphibious sequence.

Q. What about ship, air and marine movements in Florida and Caribbean area?

A. So far as we know, all ship, air and marine movements in that area are connected with PHIBRIGLEX-62.

Q. Is there any alert at McDill AFB in addition to that for participation or use of activity by forces participating in PHIBRIGLEX-62?

A. Not that we know of.

Q. Why are 34 truckloads of soldiers camped near highway near Marathon, 50 miles from Key West, Florida?

QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 20, 1962 Saturday (Cont'd)

A. We know of no encampment of Army troops there and would assume they are forces headed for participation in PHIBRIGLEX -62.

Q. Why the roundup of naval personnel at Jacksonville today?

A. Routine local exercise was carried out at Jacksonville today by the Navy and it ended at noon.

Q. Report that 476th TFS at George AFB, California had sent eight or nine planes of support equipment and personnel to Cuba early this week.

A. No information on this.

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EVENTS

October 21, 1962 Sunday

Aerial reconnaissance definitively indicated buildup of offensive weapons in Cuba. JCS directed CINCLANT to be prepared to evacuate dependents from Gtmo. JCS directed CINCLANT to reinforce Gtmo no earlier than P-day with ready CARIB PHIBRON Marine BLT. JCS directed CINCLANT to assume operational control of Army and Air Force forces assigned for contingency OPLANS.

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QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 21, 1962 Sunday

Q. Report from Langley that KB-50 tanker planes have taken off and unable to find out their mission.

A. Some KB-50's have taken off as reported but it is a part of a normal mobility training activity.

Q. Where will PHIBRIGLEX-62 landing be?

A. Island of Vieques, 30 miles east of Puerto Rico.

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EVENTS

October 22, 1962 Monday

Planning directive for quarantine of Cuba was issued to the Atlantic Fleet during the morning.

Evacuation of dependents from Guantanamo started at Noon.

12:37 p.m. Authorized TAC to implement 1/8 airborne alert and execute force dispersal plan.

2:05 p.m. Directed CINCPAC to load 5th MEB and to change operational control to CINCLANT.

3:00 p.m. National Security Council Meeting.

4:00 p.m. Cabinet Meeting.

5:00 p.m. Briefing for congressional leaders at the White House.

7:00 p.m. President's Speech.

7:00 p.m. Set increased readiness status worldwide.

Late p.m. First dependents from Gtmo arrived by air.

Public Affairs offices at State, Defense and White House go on 24-hour basis.

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QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 22, 1962 Monday (Cont'd)

Most important points covered:

- a. Objective of quarantine is to prevent entry into Cuba of offensive weapons and to attain the withdrawal of the weapons now in Cuba.
 - b. Ships will be hailed, stopped, and searched. Those carrying offensive weapons will be diverted. Force will be used if necessary to accomplish the mission.
 - c. Announced redeployment of air defense units, reinforcement of Guantanamo, evacuation of dependents in Guantanamo, increased alert status of forces world-wide.
 - d. Described the type missiles now in Cuba and pointed out missile installations on photographs.
 - e. Announced the presence of IL-28 bombers in Cuba and gave a general description of the capabilities of that aircraft.
 - f. Displayed photographs of IRBM sites under construction.
 - g. Announced that there were Soviet bloc ships enroute Cuba.
- Q. When will correspondents be permitted on board ships in quarantine operations and go to Gtmo.
- A. Travel of this type is not being permitted at this time.

QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 22, 1962 Monday

10:30 a.m. Is PHIBRIGLEX-62 a cover to assemble forces for an attack on Cuba?

A. Denied.

10:30 a.m. Regarding Marines from Camp Pendleton in PHIBRIGLEX-62, will they return to Camp Pendleton after the exercise?

A. These Marines will be retained in the area for further training and then returned to Camp Pendleton.

12:00 Are there any extra Marines deployed in the Caribbean other than those involved in PHIBRIGLEX-62?

A. No.

Q. Will the Navy confirm, deny or comment on AP report that Marine reinforcements are being sent to Gtmo?

A. No comment.

2:47 p.m. We have report of Soviet convoy approaching U.S. Atlantic Coast. Is this true?

A. We have no information on such a convoy.

4:50 p.m. Will Navy comment regarding movement of ships out of Charleston?

A. No comment.

8:00 p.m. Secretary of Defense Background briefing for media representatives.

QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 22, 1962 Monday (Cont'd)

9:20 p.m. Location of Russian ships headed for Cuba?

A. Will not discuss at this time.

10:15 p.m. Will oil tankers be stopped?

A. Unable to get down to specifics tonight.

10:35 p.m. What was the Navy and Marine strength at Gtmo before reinforcement?

A. No comment.

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EVENTS

October 23, 1962 Tuesday

Executive Committee NSC meets twice, 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. President signs Proclamation of Interdiction and Executive Order authorizing SECDEF to call up Reserves and retain personnel on active duty.

7:00 p.m. JCS directed CINCLANT to implement wartime quarantine according to rules of engagement provided.

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QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 23, 1962 Tuesday

9:00 a.m. Released seven pictures of Marine reinforcements arriving at Guantanamo.

2:10 p.m. What reason is being given as to why photos shown by the background briefing last night are not being given to the press?

A. Photos are considered classified at this time.

3:15 p.m. When will first intercept take place?

A. Not known.

7:30 p.m. SECDEF Press Conference.

Main points covered:

- a. Announcement of the signing of the Proclamation of Interdiction.
- b. Announcement of effective time of blockade, 10:00 a.m. EDT, 24 October 1962.
- c. Announcement of appointment of Admiral George Anderson as the Executive Agent for Operation of the Quarantine, Admiral Dennison, CINCLANT, as responsible Unified Commander for overall operation.
- d. Announcement that President signed Executive Order authorizing Secretary of Defense to call up Reserves and retain personnel on active duty.
- e. Declined to predict when first intercept would occur and declined to comment on position of Soviet ships.
- f. Explained rules for interdiction.
- g. Discussed offensive missile systems which are in Cuba.

QUERIES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 23, 1962 Tuesday (Cont'd)

9:35 p.m. Is this a new policy on releasing troop information?

A. No.

Q. Can you comment on troop movements?

A. No.

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EVENTS

October 24, 1962 Wednesday

10:00 a. m. Executive Committee Meeting.

10:00 a. m. Quarantine becomes effective.

Greek oiler "Sirius" is cleared through quarantine.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 24, 1962 Wednesday

1:00 a.m. Four pictures of aerial reconnaissance released.

1:30 a.m. Ten pictures of aerial reconnaissance released.

10:40 a.m. Can media representatives visit Naval Base, Key West?

A. That is up to the Commander of the Naval Base. He is responsible for security at that activity.

3:50 p.m. Informed Services, JCS, Unified and Specified Commands that "the responsibility for release of public announcements and public affairs operations of the Department of Defense or any segment thereof regarding Department of Defense activities during current Cuban Quarantine is lodged solely with the ASD(PA). There will be no release of any such information including pictures or film without the approval of the designated office."

4:00 p.m. Mr. Sylvester announced that there were 8-10 bases near various Cuban cities with each base having about four launches; that intelligence sources confirmed at least 30 missiles and more than 20 IL-28 jet fighter bombers present in Cuba; and presence of at least 5000 USSR personnel in Cuba. Announced procedures for submarine surfacing and identification. Announced evacuation of some civilian employees from Guantanamo. Mr. Sylvester refused to comment on whether or not any intercepts had been or were being made. He said he expected that the media and the people would be informed after an interception and boarding had occurred.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

October 24, 1962 Wednesday (Cont'd)

News Release - Dates, times and location of the arrival of ships carrying dependents from the U. S. Naval Base at Guantanamo.

4:30 p. m. Regarding wire story of a Canadian ship that reached Cuba today, was it stopped and boarded?

A. No comment on this story.

5:00 p. m. Informed Services, JCS and Unified and Specified Commands of twelve types of information considered vital to our national security and not releasable by Department of Defense.

5:45 p. m. Are the Army and Air Force specifically involved in Cuban quarantine operations?

A. We cannot comment on the specific missions or roles of any forces.

6:50 p. m. A troop train of an armored division just passed through Shreveport. Can we release it and photos?

A. Stressed paragraph 5 of security guidance.

7:35 p. m. Four pictures of low-level reconnaissance released.

9:55 p. m. Explain the contradiction between point 3 of security guidance and the release of the information on the 10 missile bases.

A. The guidance concerns general areas in a blanket policy. From time to time as the situation develops, specific information may be judged no longer necessary to be withheld and can then be released. This does not alter the general policy.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

October 24, 1962 Wednesday (Cont'd)

11:20 p.m. How did it happen that intelligence pictures of Cuba were released in England before they were released here?

A. Referred to State Department.

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EVENTS

October 25, 1962 Thursday

7:15 a. m. USS ESSEX in contact with Soviet Tanker BUCHAREST.

9:50 a. m. Photos confirm no deck cargo aboard BUCHAREST.

10:00 a. m. Executive Committee Meeting.

President issues instructions for the interdiction and inspection of non-Bloc ships.

11:06 a. m. COMSECONDFLT assumed surveillance of BUCHAREST (USS NEWPORT NEWS and DD's).

11:40 a. m. USS PIERCE in vicinity of MARUCLA (Lebanese freighter).
USNS UPSHUR, USS DUXBURY BAY, USS DESOTO COUNTY arrived Norfolk, Virginia in the afternoon with 2146 dependents from Naval Base, Gtmo.

2:47 p. m. USS KENNEDY ordered to intercept MARUCLA.

5:00 p. m. Evacuation of dependents from Gtmo completed.

6:30 p. m. CINCLANT directs boarding of MARUCLA.

7:15 p. m. NEWPORT NEWS and DD's cease trailing BUCHAREST.

7:30 p. m. CINCLANT directs USS KENNEDY to locate and board MARUCLA earliest possible.

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EVENTS

October 25, 1962 Thursday (Cont'd)

7:40 p. m. CINCPACFLT directs movement of 5th MEB at maximum speed of advance.

8:35 p. m. VOLKERFREUND, East German passenger ship with 20 German students bound for Havana cleared through quarantine.

9:07 p. m. USS PIERCE proceeding to intercept MARUCLA.

10:25 p. m. USS PIERCE in vicinity MARUCLA.

Soviet oiler, BUCHAREST, SUIACO, UK from Southampton to Kingston, and Polish ship to New Orleans (name unknown) cleared through quarantine.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

October 25, 1962 Thursday

11:50 a.m. Mr. Sylvester announced that at least a dozen Soviet vessels have turned back because apparently they were carrying offensive weapons. Announced that Navy had intercepted a Soviet tanker proceeding towards Cuba and that it was permitted to proceed without boarding. Encounter took place about 8:00 a.m. EDT 25 October. Ship was Soviet tanker BUCHAREST.

2:30 p.m. Picture of Soviet tanker BUCHAREST released.

5:15 p.m. Mr. Sylvester announced that BUCHAREST was not boarded. Navy reports ship heavily loaded; satisfied that it is an ordinary oil tanker.

Mr. Sylvester reports that there were ships still enroute Cuba but refused to elaborate.

8:40 p.m. Will DOD not identify Cuban based missiles by name, in view of detailed pictures which now have been released.

A. Information cannot be released at this time.

9:50 p.m. Can we release information of a troop movement here?
(El Paso)

A. Explained defense policy on this.

Requests to expand on Mr. Sylvester's statement regarding the Soviet tanker were denied.

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EVENTS

October 26, 1962 Friday

7:50 a.m. Interception and boarding of MARUCLA by USS J. P. KENNEDY.

8:20 a.m. KENNEDY boarding party returns.

10:00 a.m. Executive Committee Meeting.

10:20 a.m. MARUCLA released and underway for Havana.

During the morning USS HYADES arrived Norfolk, Virginia with 286 dependents from Naval Base, Gtmo.

1:40 p.m. Swedish ship COLLANGATTA passed through quarantine line without clearance.

4:50 p.m. USS SELLARS intercepts UK ship SULACO bound for Kingston from Southampton. Allowed to proceed.

5:45 p.m. USS PERRY intercepts Swedish ship COLLANGATTA, bound from Leningrad to Havana. Cargo potatoes. Allowed to proceed.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

October 26, 1962 Friday

9:00 a.m. Released seven pictures of evacuees departing Guantanamo.

10:00 a.m. Provided stock pictures of USS KENNEDY and USS PIERCE to media.

10:35 a.m. Mr. Sylvester announced that the Navy had intercepted and boarded the MARUCLA, a Lebanese ship, and that the boarding party was still aboard.

12:00 Noon Mr. Sylvester announced that the MARUCLA had been cleared to proceed. No prohibited material aboard.

3:00 p.m. Pictures of Commanding Officer and Executive Officer of USS PIERCE and USS KENNEDY furnished to media.

3:15 p.m. Have report according to Havana radio that Soviet ship VINITZA arrived this morning at 4:30 a.m. in Havana with a large reception. Can you confirm?

A. We cannot confirm this report at this time. We are checking.

3:20 p.m. I have a report that I know is accurate that U.S. jets have buzzed Cuban airfields at low level today as a demonstration to them of what we could do. They have not fired or done anything except fly over. I want some comment on this without delay and have not been getting any satisfactory response to my queries from the Defense Department so far this evening.

A. U.S. jets have not buzzed Cuban airfields today as a demonstration of what we can do. We have no further comment on this.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS

October 26, 1962 Friday Cont'd

3:28 p.m. Are we continuing our aerial surveillance of the missile sites in Cuba?

A. Cannot answer this question under provisions of the guidance put out on 24 October. Mr. Sylvester at a press briefing on 25 October said, "There has been constant surveillance."

4:50 p.m. Have we received fire or casualties in our surveillance efforts over Cuba?

A. We have no information on this at this time.

6:15 p.m. Released information on cargo carried by MARUCLA. Announced the names of the ships which intercepted and trailed BUCHAREST.

9:55 p.m. On AP story by Vern Hagland says the MYLIA of Oslo identified itself to the U.S. destroyer 148 and was allowed to proceed south through the Windward Passage. Can we confirm this contact and provide details?

A. We have no information which would confirm this report.

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EVENTS

October 27, 1962 Saturday

3:45 a.m. CINCLANTFLT directs interception of Lebanese ship PELLA; not to be boarded unless advised to do so.

8:35 a.m. CTF 136 directs USS MC DONOUGH and LAWRENCE to intercept and trail GROZNY.

10:00 a.m. Executive Committee Meeting.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. U-2 reconnaissance planes shot down over eastern Cuba.

10:33 a.m. F8U photo reconnaissance flights ordered.

10:46 a.m. MC DONOUGH on station with GROZNY.

1:20 p.m. F8U reconnaissance flights completed. Aircraft on afternoon flights report ground fire.

2:00 p.m. Fifth MEB sails. ETA Balboa 5 November.

4:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.

Mr. McNamara reports that two low-level reconnaissance planes flying over Cuba had been fired upon by light anti-aircraft and small arms.

9:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting.

President approves call-up of 24 troop carrier squadrons of the Air Force Reserve.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

October 27, 1962 Saturday

A. M. Public Affairs hold meeting with executives and representatives of various media to discuss on-the-spot coverage at Guantanamo and with the quarantine forces.

11:20 a. m. In answer to questions, Mr. Sylvester could not confirm the Havana radio report that a Canadian ship carrying potatoes had passed through the quarantine.

3:00 p. m. What do you have on UPI report that anti-aircraft guns were fired by Cubans at aircraft flying over that country.

A. We have no information on this.

3:35 p. m. Announced that JUPITER were made available to Turkey pursuant to a NATO Council Resolution of December, 1957.

9:20 p. m. Mr. McNamara announces that our unarmed reconnaissance aircraft had been fired on. Announces that he had instructed the Secretary of the Air Force to order to active duty 24 Troop Carrier Squadrons of the Air Force Reserve with their associated support units.

Late P. M. Announced that a military reconnaissance aircraft conducting surveillance over Cuba was missing and presumed lost.

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EVENTS

October 28, 1962 Sunday

1:05 a. m. CTF 136 directs interception of BELOVODSK during early forenoon. 29 October.

8:45 a. m. CINCLANTFLT directs suspension of the trailing of PELLA.

11:00 a. m. Executive Committee Meeting.

5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade embarked at West Coast ports, enroute Atlantic. Due in Panama 5 November.

11:05 a. m. USS STEINAKER directed to intercept MARITZA.

12:25 p. m. CINCLANTFLT directs no forceful action against any shipping until further notice. Ships to report before taking any action.

1:30 p. m. Joint Chiefs of Staff directed CINCLANT to take no forceful action and not to board any ships until further orders.

3:00 p. m. Photos of MARITZA reveal trucks and small drums.

5:14 p. m. MARITZA cleared to proceed.

5:16 p. m. PELLA cleared to proceed.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

October 28, 1962 Sunday

A. M. Announced the designations of the units of the Air Force Reserve which were called up.

11:00 a. m. Released picture of Major Rudolph Anderson, USAF.

11:10 a. m. Announced that aerial reconnaissance was continuing.

11:10 a. m. Announced postponement of plans for media to cover Guantanamo and quarantine forces.

1:00 p. m. Released 10 pictures of chronology of build up of Cuban fire missile bases.

Q. Is the missing reconnaissance plane a U-2?

A. We have no information on type of plane.

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EVENTS

October 29, 1962 Monday

11:38 a.m. USS LAWE in contact with BELOVODSK.

2:15 p. m. Joint Chiefs of Staff directed CINCLANT to conduct 8 low-level reconnaissance flights against offensive missile sites and IL-28 bases. All returned safely.

9:05 p.m. CINCLANTFLT orders no intercepts or challenges from first light 30 October during SECGEN U. Thant visit to Havana.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

October 29, 1962 Monday

12:00 Noon Announced that quarantine would remain in effect and ships remain on station until arrangements could be made by United Nations for effective inspection and that aerial reconnaissance was presumed to be continuing.

2:45 p.m. How many ships have passed the quarantine?

A. The tanker and the freighter are the only two ships we can comment on.

3:30 p.m. Can we get the names of some of the pilots who have made the missile base pictures?

A. These names are not available at this time.

4:50 p.m. Has seen story that 6 ships have arrived in Havana, including MARUCLA. Do you have anything on this?

A. Told that Mr. Sylvester is due to hold news briefing after 5:00 p.m.

5:34 p.m. Announced that surveillance flights over Cuba were made today and that all aircraft had returned safely.

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EVENTS

October 30, 1962 Tuesday

3:40 a.m. P3V from Bermuda ordered to locate and photograph
MIR and KARL MARX at first light.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

October 30, 1962 Tuesday

11:30 a. m. Mr. Sylvester announced that evaluation of the results of our surveillance of Cuba was continuing and that more time was needed to arrive at conclusive evidence. He also announced that surveillance was not being carried out at the request of SECGEN U. Thant. In answer to query refused to identify the type of aircraft missing over Cuba.

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EVENTS

October 31, 1962 Wednesday

8:59 p.m. Joint Chiefs of Staff reinstitute quarantine operations beginning at daybreak 1 November. Ships to be challenged (hailed) and trailed only. No boarding or visit and search or use of force authorized except in self-defense or as directed by higher authority.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

October 31, 1962 Wednesday

4:05 p.m. When will aerial surveillance and/or blockade be resumed?

A. You will recall that the original announcements were to the effect that the blockade would be suspended for two days. We have no information regarding aerial surveillance.

10:00 p.m. Does DOD have any statement on the circumstances of Major Anderson's death, now that U. Thant has said that Castro will return the Major's body?

A. The report by Secretary General U. Thant that the Cuban Government has agreed to return the remains of Major Rudolf Anderson, Jr. is the first word that the Department of Defense has had that Major Anderson was shot down over Cuba.

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EVENTS

November 1, 1962 Thursday

Photographic flights over Cuba resumed (6 flights)

6:27 p.m. BELOVODSK underway after being dead in the water since 290955Z.

10:35 p.m. GROZNYI underway.

The KARL MARX conducted transfer of cargo to the USTYZHNA (Soviet cargo ship homeward bound, departed Cuba 26 October).

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 1, 1962 Thursday

11:30 a. m. Defense spokesman made following statement "In the absence of effective UN arrangements, the Hemisphere Nations have the responsibility for continuing surveillance." He refused to elaborate on the statement.

3:00 p. m. Announced that "the U. S. conducted a reconnaissance mission over Cuba today. The planes returned without incident. No analysis of the pictures expected before tomorrow morning."

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EVENTS

November 2, 1962 Friday

10:49 a. m. CINCLANTFLT directs that one DD trail MIR, KARL MARX, BELOVODSK, GROZNY.

12:25 p. m. 2 F8U and 2 RF-101 photographic flights ordered. Completed at 2:48 p. m.

9:05 p. m. USS MC CAFFERY and FORREST ROYAL ordered to trail KARL MARX and MIR.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 2, 1962 Friday

9:25 a.m. The Secretary of Defense announced that preliminary analysis of aerial photographs collected on 1 November reconnaissance mission over Cuba provided clear indications that work was proceeding on the dismantling of the missile sites. A spokesman said that launch erectors had been removed, much of the associated equipment removed, cable conduits between control points and the launch pads broken up, concrete pads at the launch erectors appeared to have been broken and that certain areas of the sites had been plowed and bulldozed.

4:30 p.m. Have there been any surveillance flights over Cuba today?

A. We have nothing beyond the statement given out this morning at 0925.

3:15 p.m. In answer to query refused to state if ships had entered Cuban ports while the blockade was lifted or whether any were being passed through the quarantine line.

EVENTS

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November 3, 1962 Saturday

2:30 a.m. Two Dominican Republic Frigates report to COMSOLANT for operational control.

8:30 a.m. Soviet merchant ship EMELIAN PUGACHEV inspected vicinity Balboa, C. Z. Allowed to proceed.

Photographic flights conducted

7:23 p.m. BELOVODSK enters Havana.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 3, 1962 Saturday

12 Noon Released 8 pictures of dismantling of missile sites.

6:45 p. m. Released 4 pictures of dismantling of missile sites.

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E V E N T S

November 4, 1962 Sunday

6:35 a.m. GROZNY enters Santiago.

10:10 a.m. 6 RF 101 and 4 high altitude reconnaissance flights
flown. All returned without incident.

8:43 p.m. Argentine SA-16's placed under operational control of
Commander Air Rescue Service, McDill.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 4, 1962 Sunday

2:45 p.m. Do we know if ships are being loaded with Russian missiles to take them out of Cuba? Have any ships been cleared through the quarantine to pick up the missiles? Have there been any new confrontations or inspections?

A. We have no available information on any of the three queries.

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EVENTS

November 5, 1962 Monday

11:16 a. m. CINCLANT directs 4 flights (F8U) photo reconnaissance.

11:55 a. m. One flight pursued over Cuba.

1:25 p. m. All flights returned safely.

7:00 p. m. USS LEARY intercepts Swedish ship CARIB enroute
Leningrad to Havana. Cargo potatoes. Allowed to proceed.

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 5, 1962 Monday

1:10 p.m. AP states that "U.S. authorities" say there is no evidence that the Russians are packing up their atomic capable bomber aircraft in Cuba.

(1) Did DOD sources say this? (2) Is it true?

A. (1) No authorized sources.

(2) No comment.

2:10 p.m. Is it true that the Panama Canal is temporarily closed to commercial traffic and that 27 U.S. warships are passing through it from the Pacific to the Atlantic?

A. We have nothing on the matter. Pointed out that DOD would not comment on any movement or fighting equipment.

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 6, 1962 Tuesday

4:25 a. m. CINCLANT reports that movement of Soviet personnel and equipment in Cuba towards sea ports suggests hurried disassembly of equipment for overseas shipment.

12:30 p. m. All photo reconnaissance returned safely (four flights).

1:41 p. m. CINCLANT advised that aerial photography and visual observation of out bound ships are essential because load out of missiles is being rushed.

4:35 p. m. CNO promulgates list of ships of immediate urgent interest expected to leave Cuba.

LABINSK, BRATSK, L. KOMSONAL, KURCHATOV, POLZUNOV,
ALAPAYEVSK, NIKOLAEVSK.

~~SECRET~~

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 6, 1962 Tuesday

11:20 a.m. How many boardings have we had to date?

A. One, the boarding of MARUCLA.

11:25 a.m. How many 1L-28's are there in Cuba?

A. We are not discussing the number of any of the offensive weapons in Cuba (Statement of 22 October).

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 7, 1962 Wednesday

3:00 a.m. Two DD's and one SS of Venezuelan Navy placed under operational control of COMSOLANT. Will be underway for Trinidad 8 November. Six ships underway from Cuba: KURCHATOV, ANASOV, LABINSK, POLZONOV, BRATSK, DVINOGORSK.

~~SECRET~~

The Cuban Missile Crisis Revealed UMI 2005

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
A	10x	X												
B									X		X		X	
C					X		X		X		X		X	
D									X		X		X	
E					X		X		X		X		X	
F									X		X		X	
G														X

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DATE

The Cuban Missile Crisis Revisited: An International Collection of Documents, from the Bay of Pigs to the Brink of Nuclear War

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The Cuban Missile Crisis Revisited: An International Collection of Documents, from the Bay of Pigs to the Brink of Nuclear War reproduces a comprehensive collection of records from the archives of the three key governments involved in the most dangerous confrontation of the Cold war. Declassified records from the United States, Russia and Cuba significantly advance analysis of the historical foundations of the missile crisis, the policy calculations and considerations of President John F. Kennedy and premiers Nikita Khrushchev and Fidel Castro, and the overt and covert military and paramilitary operations that combined to bring the world to the threshold of a nuclear exchange. Topics extensively covered in the documentation include the failed U.S.-led invasion at the Bay of Pigs, renewed attempts to overthrow Castro through Operation Mongoose and Operation Northwoods, U.S. military contingency planning for conflict with Cuba, naval warfare, Soviet and Cuban decision making and communications during the crisis, and the repercussions for U.S.-Soviet relations, and Soviet-Cuban relations in its aftermath. Materials were identified, obtained, assembled and indexed by the National Security Archive, a non-profit Washington D.C. based research institute and library. The microfiche collection is accompanied by a printed guide and index.

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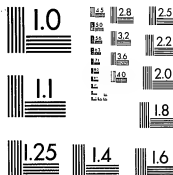
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PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 7, 1962 Wednesday

November 13, 1962 - Announced that two Venezuelan destroyers were to join Quarantine Force (Delay due to coordination with Government of Venezuela).

Announced that two Argentine Destroyers were to join the Quarantine Force on 8 November.

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 8, 1962 Thursday

1:25 a.m. CINCLANTFLT orders destroyer intercept of DVINOGORSK.
5:30 a.m. STEINAKER ordered to intercept KURCHATOV.
9:30 a.m. Photo reconnaissance flights ordered. (Returned at 12:05).
5:45 p.m. VOLGOLES sighted by P2V aircraft. Did not respond to signals to uncover deck cargo. VESOLE and N.K. PERRY assigned to intercept, trail and establish contact at first light 9 November.
5:50 p.m. P2V sighted and photographed DVINOGORSK.
8:28 p.m. USS HOLDER alongside ALAPAYEVSK.
8:38 p.m. PERRY intercepts VOLGOLES. Refuses to show missiles.
10:18 p.m. DD assigned to intercept KURCHATOV.

Photographed: KURCHATOV, ANASOV, BRATSK, DVINOGORSK,
VOLOGOLES, ALAPAYESK.

LABINSK underway but not photographed.

~~SECRET~~

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 8, 1962 Thursday

5:40 p.m. Mr. Sylvester announced that the U. S. Government had confirmed, through aerial reconnaissance, that Medium Range Ballistic Missile and Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile equipment was being removed from Cuba.

5:45 p.m. Released four pictures of Soviet ships departing Cuba.

6:55 p.m. Released three pictures of Soviet ships loading at dock side in Cuba.

Inspections announced 12 November 1962.

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 9, 1962 Friday

10:18 a. m. Photo reconnaissance flights ordered. Completed at

1:48 p. m.

Summary of INTERCEPTS - 9, 10 and 11 November

<u>Name</u>	<u>Inspected</u>	<u>Photos</u>	<u>No. of Missiles</u>
LABINSK	Yes	Yes	2
BRATSK	Yes	Yes	2
KOMSOMOL	Yes	Yes	8
KURCHATOV	No	Yes	6 (probable)
ANASOV	Yes	Yes	8
DVINOGORSK	Yes	Yes	4
VOLGOLES	Yes	Yes	7
POLZONOV	No	No	5
ALAPAYESK	Yes	Yes	0

~~SECRET~~

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 9, 1962 Friday

4:10 p.m. Is the statement in Washington Star "all 40 Soviet missiles 'known' to have been in Cuba will be on high seas by tomorrow" factual and direct?

A. Advised that no such statements made by Defense spokesman.

9:00 p.m. Released five pictures of Soviet submarines in the quarantine area.

Flyover quarantine force by 10 media representatives.

26 media representatives flown to Guantanamo.

Intercepts and inspections announced on 12 November 1962.

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 10, 1962 Saturday

1:04 a.m. KARL MARX and POLZONOV underway.

3:08 p.m. All photo reconnaissance flights completed.

November 11, 1962 Sunday

Reinspection of several ships conducted uring the day.

~~SECRET~~

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 10, 1962 Saturday

Flyover quarantine force by 12 media representatives.

November 11, 1962 Sunday

4:30 p. m. Released four pictures of uncovered missiles aboard Soviet ships outbound from Cuba.

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 12, 1962 Monday

9:00 a. m. Photo reconnaissance flights ordered (Returned by 1:55 p. m.).

THEODOR KORNER, ATRASK, OHKOTSK ordered intercepted.

~~SECRET~~

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 12, 1962 Monday

1:55 p.m. How many ships have gone into Cuba in the past two weeks?

A. 29 October to 10 November -

Soviet ships	8
Bloc ships	3
Bloc charter	18
Others	<u>3</u>
Total	32

Since 10 November - 3.

15 media representatives flown to Guantanamo

Announced the inspection of 8 Soviet ships by U.S. Navy ships. Forty-two missiles sighted on these ships.

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 13, 1962 Tuesday

9:12 a.m. Photo reconnaissance ordered.

~~SECRET~~

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 13, 1962 Tuesday

9:20 a.m. Both Admiral Anderson and Admiral O'Donnell have referred to Soviet submarines operating in Caribbean and Atlantic. Should we assume that they are speaking essentially of the same submarines?

A. They are referring to the same submarines.

2:45 p.m. What is the status of the Argentine destroyers assigned to the Combined Quarantine Force?

A. The Argentine destroyers ARA - ROSALES and ARA - ESPORA are now on their assigned stations.

6:20 p.m.

Q. How many ships passed the quarantine from 24 through 29 October?

A. 14.

Q. What were their nationalities?

A. British, Spanish, Swedish, Norwegian, Lebanese, Greek, German, Czech, Polish, and Soviet.

Q. How many ships were intercepted?

A. Information not available.

Q. How many ships were passed after boarding?

A. One.

Q. Were any ships turned back?

A. No.

11:38 p.m. In answer to query, provided approximate position of intercept of: LABINSK, BRATSK, KOMSOMOL, DVINOGORSK, VOLGOLES.

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 14, 1962 Wednesday

7:00 a.m. High altitude reconnaissance flights launched. Low altitude flights cancelled.

~~SECRET~~

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 14, 1962 Wednesday

11:05 a.m. In answer to queries regarding the TV interview of Mr. Gilpatric, a Defense spokesman stated that despite the fact that the show had been taped on Saturday, 10 November, the missile count was not verified until just before air time on Sunday, 11 November, DOD released number of missiles counted one half hour before air time.

In answer to queries, stated that nine ships, which were believed to be carrying missiles were inspected alongside.

18 media representatives flown to Guantanamo.

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 15, 1962 Thursday

9:43 a.m. Photo reconnaissance flights ordered.

Following Russian ships believed to be enroute Cuba: OKHA TSH,
ORENBURG, KASINICV, KRASNOGRAD, KARACHAYEVAK.

~~SECRET~~

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 15, 1962 Thursday

10:55 a.m. What are the names of the ships that cleared through quarantine?

A. Names not available.

11:10 a.m. Defense spokesman, in answer to queries, stated that the Defense Department was satisfied that 42 missiles had been removed from Cuba. He quoted Mr. Gilpatric as follows: "We never knew how many missiles were brought into Cuba. The Soviets said there were 42. We have counted 42 going out. We saw fewer than 42 - (that is to say, in Cuba itself). Until we have so-called on-site inspection of the island of Cuba we can never be sure that 42 is the maximum number that the Soviets brought into Cuba."

Refused to comment on the size of Task Force 136 or on the number of IL-28's in Cuba.

11:45 a.m. Is the United States Government satisfied that the objects seen aboard Soviet ships leaving Cuba were truly missiles?

A. We have had hundreds of photographs taken from the air and from ship-board of the destroyers that took part in the alongside procedure in which nine Soviet vessels were given visual and photographic inspection by the U.S. destroyers.

The photographs taken, as well as eyeball reports by naval observers are now being analyzed at all levels of the intelligence community. So far there has not been any overall final assessment.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 15, 1962 Thursday (Cont'd)

Pending that assessment, responsible officials in the Defense Department and in the Government are satisfied, on the basis of evidence to date, that the objects described as missiles aboard the Russian vessels were indeed Soviet missiles. However, these officials are withholding their final determination until the completion of the close technical analysis that is now underway with the full intelligence capabilities of the United States Government.

~~SECRET~~

EVENTS

November 16, 1962 Friday

No reconnaissance flights.

~~SECRET~~

PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTION

November 16, 1962 Friday

3:19 p.m. Defense spokesman, in answer to queries, refused to comment on whether any reconnaissance planes had been shot at in the last two weeks.

5:15 p.m. As of 5:00 p.m., has there been any interference with out reconnaissance aircraft over Cuba?

A. We have nothing to say on Cuba at this time.

15 media representatives flown to Guantanamo

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIONS AFTER 16 NOVEMBER 1962:

A. 21 November 1962

Announced that as of 6:45 p.m., 20 November, that the quarantine forces had been ordered to discontinue operations and return to normal operations. The Combined Quarantine Force, the Inter-American Force, ordered to discontinue operations.

Announced that outbound Soviet ships would be located and photographed by aircraft of the Anti-Submarine Warfare Forces of the Atlantic Fleet if directed.

12-point security guidelines cancelled.

The Secretary of Defense authorized Secretaries of the Navy and the Air Force to terminate the extension of tours of duty and to release those Reservists called to active duty in connection with the Cuban crisis.

B. Between 17 November and 19 December 33 news media representatives were flown to Guantanamo.

C. 27 November 1962

Phase redeployment of forces in Southeastern United States was announced.

D. On 7 December 1962, 18 news media representatives were flown over Soviet ships outbound from Cuba with 1L-28 aircraft aboard.